

York, ME, Water Main Replacement

PROJECT NEWS

When Maine DOT's bridge consulting engineer determined that Sewall's Bridge, located on Route 103 in York, ME, was in need of major rehabilitation and maintenance, the York Water District was faced with having to relocate its existing 8" water main that was attached to the bridge. York Water District consulted with Wright-Pierce Engineering, and a hydraulic model determined that the 8" main was not sufficient in meeting the needs for that area of the system in terms of fire protection.

The model recommended that the 8" main be increased to a minimum of a 12" diameter. Due to space limitations and aesthetics, the pipe would not be able to be insulated and strung along the side of the bridge. To solve these issues, York Water District Superintendent Don Neumann decided to increase the pipe to a 14" polyethylene (PE) pipe, which would be bedded in the York River.

With the assistance of E.J. Prescott, Inc. (Gardiner, ME), Prock Marine (Rockland, ME), and Roger Pratt, owner of Pratt Excavating (York, ME), the 640' of 14" PE pipe was butt-fusion welded and then carried across the York River by a 40'x120' barge owned by Prock Marine. While on the barge, Prock excavated along the bottom of the York River and placed crushed stone in the bottom of the

trench. Concrete anchors were put on the pipe and the pipe was positioned above the trench. The pipe was filled with water and sunk into the trench, and the trench was backfilled.

Once each end of the main was reconnected and properly flushed and chlorinated, York Water District had a main that was sufficient enough to provide both safe drinking water and adequate fire protection. A great job well done by all involved and a very special "Thank You" to the York Water District from E.J. Prescott for the opportunity to help provide a solution for their needs.



Team EJP helps to rebuild & reopen the Kennebec Ice Arena! Look for article in the next PEptalk!